

Site: ST. LOUIS EX-ORDNANCE A
ID #: 108210022465
Break: 1.3
Other: 0744 N/D

Property Summary of the Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant

The NIROP property, originally a vacant Ford Motor Company Car Assembly Plant, was acquired by the War Department in October 1942 by condemnation. Between March 1944 and August 1944, the property was used as a Department of Army-owned, McQuay-Norris Company-operated bullet core plant. Finished bullet cores from the property were sent to the nearby St. Louis Ordnance Plant for manufacturing of tracer and incendiary ammunition. Bullet core manufacturing operations at the property ceased in August 1944 as the plant was transferred to the Naval Department. The facility was reconfigured and became St. Louis Naval Industrial Reserve Ordnance Plant (NIROP). The NIROP plant manufactured proximity fuses and continued to be run by McQuay-Norris Company. In 1960, the property was handed over to the General Services Administration (GSA) for disposal.

In 1966, the property was sold to the Missouri Goodwill Services (Goodwill), which owned the adjacent building to the west. In 1978, Goodwill sold the building and all but a small portion of the parking lot to Acme Premium Supply Corporation (ACME), which used the building as an office and warehouse facility.

In 1987, a railroad spur was removed through the property and the parking lot was restructured. It is believed that during this time, at least two Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUSTs) were removed from the site. Soil total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) contamination was found during a site assessment performed in 1993. A closure letter from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) was issued for the tank in December 1999. This letter has since been rescinded as the MDNR cleanup values have changed.

As part of another environmental site assessment, an environmental subsurface investigation was performed in 2001 to delineate the TPH contamination. Soil borings were drilled and subsurface soil samples were taken along with groundwater samples. Subsurface sampling confirmed TPH contamination, but also a groundwater sample detected 0.160 parts per million of trichloroethene (TCE) in the middle of the east parking lot.

As of November 2005, the property was in the Brownfields/Voluntary Cleanup Plan (BVCP) run by MDNR. The property is listed as undergoing an active investigation into asbestos, lead-based paint, petroleum, and solvent contamination. A subsurface investigation was performed in early August 2006 to further delineate TCE contamination in the groundwater. Groundwater is considered to be an incomplete pathway due to St. Louis City Ordinance 66777 forbidding the use of groundwater as a potable water source.

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